GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2452
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INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unemployment in the country has increased despite increasing economic growth rate;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such growth is limited to certain sectors only;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase employment growth at par with economic growth rate?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a & b): Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organization. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per two most recent quinquennial rounds of survey on employment and unemployment, unemployment rate on Current Daily Status basis has increased from 7.3% to 8.3% during 1999-2000 to 2004-05. This was due to the fact that the pace of growth in labour force at 2.84% per annum exceeded the rate of growth of work force at 2.62% per annum. The increase in labour force is mainly attributed to the fact that working age population grew faster than total population and labour force participation rate increased particularly, among women during 1999-2000 to 2004-05.

(c & d): Annual growth rates of Gross Domestic Product at 1999-2000 prices during 1999-2000 to 2004-05 are given in Annex.

e): Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at creating 58 million job opportunities. The focus is also on productive employment at a faster pace than before, and target agriculture growth at 4% per annum in order to raise the incomes of masses of the rural population to bring about a general improvement in their living conditions. Government has also been implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes, some of the important ones are Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA).